

## REMARKS

Claims 1-4, 7, 8, 10 and 11 are pending in this application. Claims 10 and 11 are rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph as being indefinite. Claims 1, 3-4, 8, 10, and 11 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Webb in view of Schafer, US 2,334,651 ("Schafer"). Claims 2 and 7 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Webb in view of Schafer, in further view of Wing, US 3,504,390 ("Wing").

Claims 3, 4, and 6 are cancelled herein.

New claim 12 has been added.

With regard to the rejection of claims 10 and 11 under 35 USC 112, claim 10 has been amended to depend from claim 1, and claim 11 has been canceled. Accordingly, the rejection of claims 10 and 11 under 35 USC 112 should be withdrawn.

With regard to the rejection of claim 1 under 35 USC 103, claim 1 has been amended to further define that the spray section "does not include a brush," the rinse water section "does not include a brush," and that a "brushing section...between said first and second sections...does not include a spray delivery system." In addition, amended claim 1 includes the features of "a plurality of spaced nozzles located in each of said spray section and said rinse water section for delivering a liquid spray to all exposed surfaces of the board; and a high volume, low pressure pump for maintaining a predetermined volume of flow at each of said spaced nozzles for providing soaking of the surfaces of the board for removing discolorations of the board resulting from dried body fluids deposited on the surfaces of the board, said high volume being greater than about 8.5 gallons per minute." Support for these amendments can be found in at least FIG. 2 and paragraphs [0005] – [0006] and [0015] of the present published patent application.

The applicants of the present invention have recognized that prior cleaning apparatuses do not sufficiently remove discolorations resulting from dried body fluids on body boards. Accordingly, they have developed an innovative high volume, low pressure cleaning apparatus that is capable of removing these discolorations using a

soaking action in first section of a cleaning apparatus, brushing in a second section, and then rinsing in third section. In particular, by providing a "volume of flow...for providing soaking of the surfaces of the board for removing discolorations of the board resulting from dried body fluids deposited on the surfaces of the board," it has been experimentally determined that such problematic discolorations can be effectively removed from body boards. Nothing in Webb nor Schafer, nor any of the other cited art, teaches or suggests these claimed features.

In contrast to the present invention, Webb describes a slat cleaner directing a fine spray of cleansing solution against slats to be cleaned. See for example, Webb, page 3, column 1, lines 30-31. Nowhere does Webb teach or suggest cleaning discolorations caused by body fluids using "a high volume, low pressure for providing soaking of the surfaces of the board," nor that "said high volume of spray [is] greater than about 8.5 gallons per minute." Moreover, by describing using a fine spray, Webb teaches away from using a "high volume" of spray as recited in claim 1. Furthermore, in contrast to a spray section that "does not include a brush" and a rinse water section that "does not include a brush," Webb describes sections having both brushes and spray delivery systems. See, for example Webb, FIG. 4 and page 1, column 1, line 51 – page 2, column 2, line 67. Schafer, merely teaching a pair of brushes rotatably driven in a same direction, fails to remedy the shortcomings of Webb as applied to claim 1. For all the above reasons, neither Webb nor Schafer, nor any of the cited prior art, alone, or in combination, renders amended claim 1 unpatentable. Therefore, claim 1, and claims 2, 7, 8, and 10 depending therefrom, are believed to be in condition for allowance.

New claim 12 further defines the pressure maintained by the pump to be "about 50 pounds per square inch." Support for this amendment can be found in at least paragraph [0019] of the present published patent application. Neither Webb nor Schafer, nor any of the cited prior art, teaches or suggests using a pressure of 50 pounds per square inch. Accordingly, claim 12 is believed to be in condition for allowance with regard to the cited prior art.

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Reconsideration of the amended application in light of the above Remarks and allowance of claims 1, 2, 7, 8, 10 and 12 are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'W. David Sartor', is written over a horizontal line.

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